

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Claims 4, 7, 66, 73, 79, 80, 90, 96 and 97 are canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1, 5, 8-13, 15-18, 20-31, 33-62 and 98-113 were previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 114-141 are newly added.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) A-~~The~~ method as defined in claim 14, wherein the first communication mode ~~of the first communication scheme~~ is a full-rate communication mode and the second communication mode ~~of the first communication scheme~~ is a half-rate communication mode.

3. (Currently Amended) A-~~The~~ method as defined in claim 14, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, wherein a first system uses the first communication scheme, wherein a first station is using the first communication scheme and is performing the steps of receiving the signal-coding parameters, receiving the request and dropping the portion of the signal-coding parameters, wherein the method enables interoperation between the first station-system and a second-station system, wherein the second station-system is using-uses a second communication scheme, wherein the first communication scheme is code division multiple access-2000 variable bitrate wideband (CDMA2000 VBR-WB) and the second communication scheme is adaptive multi-rate wideband (AMR-WB).

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method as defined in claim ~~66~~ 65, wherein the dropped portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises fixed codebook indices and wherein generating replacement signal-coding parameters comprises randomly generating replacement fixed codebook indices.

7-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
~~receiving signal-coding parameters representative of a sound signal encoded in accordance with a first communication mode of a first communication scheme;~~
receiving a request to transmit ~~the signal-coding parameters~~ a frame using a second communication mode ~~of the first communication scheme~~ to reduce bit rate during transmission of said ~~signal-coding parameters~~ frame, wherein the frame comprises signal-coding parameters representative of a sound signal and wherein the frame is encoded in accordance with a first communication mode; and
in response to the request, dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters to enable transmission of the ~~signal-coding parameters~~ frame using the second communication mode ~~of the first communication scheme;~~ and
inserting information into the frame, wherein the information indicates that the frame is encoded in accordance with a particular communication mode that involves dropping the portion of the signal-coding parameters.

15-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A system comprising a first station ~~using a first communication scheme~~ and a second station ~~using a second communication scheme;~~
said first station comprising:

~~means for encoding a sound signal to generate signal-coding parameters according to a first communication mode of the first communication scheme,~~

~~means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters a frame using a second communication mode of the a first communication scheme to reduce bit rate during transmission of said frame, wherein the frame comprises signal-coding parameters representative of a sound signal and wherein the frame is encoded in accordance with a first communication mode of the first communication scheme,~~

~~means for dropping, in response to said request, a first portion of the signal-coding parameters encoded according to the first communication mode of the first communication scheme to enable transmission of the frame using the second communication mode of the first communication scheme,~~

~~means for inserting information into the frame, wherein the information indicates that the frame is encoded in accordance with a particular communication mode of the first communication scheme that involves dropping the first portion of the signal-coding parameters, and~~

~~means for transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters frame using the second communication mode of the first communication scheme;~~

~~said second station comprising:~~

~~means for receiving the remaining signal-coding parameters transmitted frame, wherein the transmitted frame comprises the information and a second portion of the signal-coding parameters,~~

~~means for generating, in response to said information, replacement signal-coding parameters to replace said dropped first portion of the signal-coding parameters,~~

~~means for inserting the generated replacement signal-coding parameters into the received frame to enable further transmission of the frame in accordance with a communication mode of a second communication scheme, and~~

~~means for decoding-transmitting the frame in accordance with the communication mode of the second communication scheme signal-coding parameters using the remaining signal-coding parameters and the generated replacement signal-coding parameters.~~

20-31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A device comprising:

~~means for receiving signal-coding parameters representative of a sound signal encoded in accordance with a first communication mode of a first communication scheme;~~

means for receiving a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters a frame using a second communication mode of ~~the first communication scheme~~ to reduce bit rate during transmission of said ~~signal-coding parameters~~ frame, wherein the frame comprises signal-coding parameters representative of a sound signal and wherein the frame is encoded in accordance with a first communication mode; and

means for dropping a portion of the signal-coding parameters to enable transmission of the ~~remaining signal-coding parameters frame~~ using the second communication mode of ~~the first communication scheme;~~ and

means for inserting information into the frame, wherein the information indicates that the frame is encoded in accordance with a particular communication mode that involves dropping the portion of the signal-coding parameters.

33-62. (Canceled)

63. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ method as defined in claim 14, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with a ~~first~~ communication mode of a second communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the ~~first~~ communication mode of the second communication scheme.

64. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ method as defined in claim 14, wherein the dropped portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises fixed codebook indices.

65. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ method as defined in claim 63, further comprising

transmitting the ~~remaining signal-coding parameters-frame~~ using the second communication mode of the first communication scheme from a first device to a second device; receiving the transmitted frame at the second device; generating, by the second device in response to the information in the received frame, replacement signal-coding parameters to replace the dropped portion of the signal-coding parameters; inserting, by the second device, the generated replacement signal-coding parameters into the received frame to enable further transmission of the frame in accordance with the communication mode of the second communication scheme; and ~~decoding further transmitting the signal-coding parameters including the replaced portion of the signal-coding parameters-frame according to using~~ the first communication mode of the second communication scheme from the second device to a third device.

66. (Canceled)

67. (Currently Amended) A-The method as defined in claim 14, further comprising an initial step of encoding the sound signal in accordance with the first communication mode of the first communication scheme.

68. (Currently Amended) A-The method as defined in claim 14, further comprising transmitting the ~~remaining signal-coding parameters-frame~~ using the second communication mode ~~of the first communication scheme~~.

69. (Currently Amended) A-The device as defined in claim 32, further comprising means for encoding the sound signal in accordance with a first communication mode of the first communication scheme that is interoperable with a ~~first~~ communication mode of a second communication scheme; and

means for transmitting the ~~remaining signal-coding parameters according to frame~~ using a second communication mode of the first communication scheme that is not interoperable with the ~~first~~ communication mode of the second communication scheme.

70. (Currently Amended) A-The device as defined in claim 32, wherein the dropped

portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises fixed codebook indices.

71. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ device as defined in claim 32, wherein ~~the means for receiving a request is arranged to receive a~~ the request is to to transmit the signal-coding parameters frame using a half-rate communication mode.

72. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ device as defined in claim 32, wherein the device is a code division multiple access 2000 (CDMA2000) VBR-WB coder using a variable bitrate wideband (VBR-WB) codec.

73. (Canceled)

74. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ device as defined in claim 32, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, the device further comprising means for transmitting the remaining signal-coding parameters frame according to a using the second communication mode of the first communication scheme, that wherein the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the first a communication mode of the a second communication scheme.

75. (Currently Amended) A device comprising:
means for receiving an ~~indication that signal-coding parameters have been transmitted using a frame using a second communication mode of a first communication scheme, wherein the frame comprises information and a second portion of signal-coding parameters, wherein the information indicates that the frame is encoded in accordance with a particular communication mode that involves dropping a first portion of the signal-coding parameters instead of a first communication mode of the first communication scheme to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters frame, wherein the signal-coding parameters are representative of a sound signal;~~ and

means for generating, in response to said ~~indication~~ information, replacement signal-

coding parameters to replace ~~a~~the first portion of the signal-coding parameters dropped to reduce the bit rate during transmission ~~of the frame in order to produce second signal-coding parameters according to a first communication mode of a second communication scheme; and~~
means for inserting the generated replacement signal-coding parameters into the received frame to enable further transmission of the frame in accordance with the first communication mode.

76. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ device as defined in claim 75, wherein the means for generating replacement signal-coding parameters is ~~arranged to further for~~ randomly generating the replacement signal-coding parameters.

77. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ device as defined in claim 76, wherein:
the randomly generated replacement signal-coding parameters comprise randomly generated replacement fixed codebook indices.

78. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ device as defined in claim 75, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, the device further comprising means for transmitting the frame signal-coding parameters including the replaced portion of the signal-coding parameters according to the first using a communication mode of the a second communication scheme that is compatible with the first communication mode of the first communication scheme.

79. (Canceled)

80. (Canceled)

81. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
receiving an indication that signal-coding parameters have been transmitted using a frame using a second communication mode of a first communication scheme, wherein the frame comprises information and a second portion of signal-coding parameters, wherein the

information indicates that the frame is encoded in accordance with a particular communication mode that involves dropping a first portion of the signal-coding parameters instead of a first communication mode of the first communication scheme to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters frame, wherein the signal-coding parameters are representative of a sound signal encoded according to the first communication mode of the first communication scheme; and

in response to said indication information, generating replacement signal-coding parameters to replace a the first portion of the signal-coding parameters dropped to reduce the bit rate during transmission of the frame in order to produce second signal-coding parameters according to a first communication mode of a second communication scheme; and

inserting the generated replacement signal-coding parameters into the received frame to enable further transmission of the frame in accordance with the first communication mode.

82. (Currently Amended) A The method as defined in claim 81, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with the first a communication mode of the a second communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the first communication mode of the second communication scheme.

83. (Currently Amended) A The method as defined in claim 81 82, further comprising further transmitting the second signal-coding parameters according to frame using the first communication mode of the second communication scheme.

84. (Currently Amended) A The method as defined in claim 81 83, further comprising receiving the signal-coding parameters frame and decoding the sound signal using the second portion of the signal-coding parameters and the generated replacement signal-coding parameters.

85. (Currently Amended) A device comprising:

~~a first input configured to receive signal-coding parameters representative of a sound signal encoded in accordance with a first communication mode of a first communication scheme;~~

~~an second input configured to receive a request to transmit the signal-coding parameters a frame using a second communication mode of the first communication scheme to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters frame, wherein the frame comprises signal-coding parameters representative of a sound signal and wherein the frame is encoded in accordance with a first communication mode; and~~

~~a processing module configured to drop a portion of the signal-coding parameters to enable transmission of the remaining signal-coding parameters frame using the second communication mode of the first communication scheme and to insert information into the frame, wherein the information indicates that the frame is encoded in accordance with a particular communication mode that involves dropping the portion of the signal-coding parameters.~~

86. (Currently Amended) ~~A-~~The device as defined in claim 85, further comprising: an encoder configured to encode the sound signal in accordance with a first communication mode of the first communication scheme that is interoperable with a ~~first communication mode of a second communication scheme; and~~

~~a transmitter configured to transmit the remaining signal-coding parameters according to frame using~~ a second communication mode of the first communication scheme that is not interoperable with the ~~first communication mode of the second communication scheme.~~

87. (Currently Amended) ~~A-~~The device as defined in claim 85, wherein the dropped portion of the signal-coding parameters comprises fixed codebook indices.

88. (Currently Amended) ~~A-~~The device as defined in claim 85, wherein ~~the second input is further arranged to receive a the request is~~ to transmit the ~~signal-coding parameters frame~~ using a half-rate communication mode.

89. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The device as defined in claim 85, wherein the device is a code division multiple access 2000 (CDMA2000) VBR-WB-coder using a variable bitrate wideband (VBR-WB) codec.

90. (Canceled)

91. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The device as defined in claim 85, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, the device further comprising a transmitter configured to transmit the remaining signal-coding parameters frame according to a using the second communication mode of the first communication scheme, that wherein the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the first a communication mode of the a second communication scheme.

92. (Currently Amended) A device comprising:

a receiver configured to receive an indication that ~~signal-coding parameters have been transmitted using a frame using a second communication mode of a first communication scheme, wherein the frame comprises information and a second portion of signal-coding parameters, wherein the information indicates that the frame is encoded in accordance with a particular communication mode that involves dropping a first portion of the signal-coding parameters instead of a first communication mode of the first communication scheme to reduce bit rate during transmission of said signal-coding parameters frame, wherein the signal-coding parameters are representative of a sound signal; and~~

a processing module configured to generate, in response to said indication ~~information, replacement signal-coding parameters to replace a the first portion of the signal-coding parameters dropped to reduce the bit rate during transmission of the frame and to insert the generated replacement signal-coding parameters into the received frame to enable further transmission of the frame in accordance with the first communication mode in order to produce second signal-coding parameters according to a first communication mode of a second communication scheme.~~

93. (Currently Amended) A-The device as defined in claim 92, wherein the processing module is further arranged to randomly generate the replacement signal-coding parameters.

94. (Currently Amended) A-The device as defined in claim 93, wherein the randomly generated replacement signal-coding parameters comprise randomly generated replacement fixed codebook indices.

95. (Currently Amended) A-The device as defined in claim 92, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, the device further comprising a transmitter configured to further transmit the frame signal-coding parameters including the replaced portion of the signal-coding parameters according to using the first a communication mode of the a second communication scheme that is compatible with the first communication mode of the first communication scheme.

96-113. (Canceled)

114. (New) The method as defined in claim 3, wherein the first system is a code division multiple access 2000 (CDMA2000) system using a variable bitrate wideband (VBR-WB) codec and the second communication system is a third generation partnership project (3GPP) system using an adaptive multi-rate-wideband (AMR-WB) codec.

115. (New) The method as defined in claim 3, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with a communication mode of the second communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the communication mode of the second communication scheme.

116. (New) The method as defined in claim 14, wherein the particular communication mode comprises a signaling half rate communication mode or an interoperable half rate

communication mode.

117. (New) The device as defined in claim 85, wherein the first communication mode is a full-rate communication mode and the second communication mode is a half-rate communication mode.

118. (New) The device as defined in claim 85, wherein the particular communication mode comprises a signaling half rate communication mode or an interoperable half rate communication mode.

119. (New) The device as defined in claim 85, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with a communication mode of a second communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the communication mode of the second communication scheme.

120. (New) The device as defined in claim 85, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, wherein the device comprises a first device within a first system that uses the first communication scheme, wherein the device is configured to communicate with a second device via the first system and a second system, wherein the second system uses a second communication scheme.

121. (New) The device as defined in claim 120, wherein the first system is a code division multiple access 2000 (CDMA2000) system using a variable bitrate wideband (VBR-WB) codec and the second communication system is a third generation partnership project (3GPP) system using an adaptive multi-rate-wideband (AMR-WB) codec.

122. (New) The device as defined in claim 120, wherein the first communication

mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with a communication mode of a second communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the communication mode of the second communication scheme.

123. (New) The device as defined in claim 32, wherein the first communication mode is a full-rate communication mode and the second communication mode is a half-rate communication mode.

124. (New) The device as defined in claim 32, wherein the particular communication mode comprises a signaling half rate communication mode or an interoperable half rate communication mode.

125. (New) The device as defined in claim 32, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with a communication mode of a second communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the communication mode of the second communication scheme.

126. (New) The device as defined in claim 32, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, wherein the device comprises a first device within a first system that uses the first communication scheme, wherein the device is configured to communicate with a second device via the first system and a second system, wherein the second system uses a second communication scheme, wherein the first system is a code division multiple access 2000 (CDMA2000) system using a variable bitrate wideband (VBR-WB) codec and the second communication system is a third generation partnership project (3GPP) system using an adaptive multi-rate-wideband (AMR-WB) codec, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with a communication mode of a second

communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the communication mode of the second communication scheme.

127. (New) The method as defined in claim 81, wherein the first communication mode is a full-rate communication mode and the second communication mode is a half-rate communication mode.

128. (New) The method as defined in claim 81, wherein the particular communication mode comprises a signaling half rate communication mode or an interoperable half rate communication mode.

129. (New) The method as defined in claim 81, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, wherein a first system uses the first communication scheme, wherein the method enables interoperation between the first system and a second system, wherein the second system uses a second communication scheme.

130. (New) The method as defined in claim 129, wherein the first system is a code division multiple access 2000 (CDMA2000) system using a variable bitrate wideband (VBR-WB) codec and the second communication system is a third generation partnership project (3GPP) system using an adaptive multi-rate-wideband (AMR-WB) codec.

131. (New) The method as defined in claim 129, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with a communication mode of the second communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the communication mode of the second communication scheme.

132. (New) The device as defined in claim 92, wherein the first communication mode

is a full-rate communication mode and the second communication mode is a half-rate communication mode.

133. (New) The device as defined in claim 92, wherein the particular communication mode comprises a signaling half rate communication mode or an interoperable half rate communication mode.

134. (New) The device as defined in claim 92, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with a communication mode of a second communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the communication mode of the second communication scheme.

135. (New) The device as defined in claim 92, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, wherein the device is configured to receive first communications via a first system and to transmit second communications via a second system, wherein the first system uses the first communication scheme and the second system uses a second communication scheme.

136. (New) The device as defined in claim 135, wherein the first system is a code division multiple access 2000 (CDMA2000) system using a variable bitrate wideband (VBR-WB) codec and the second communication system is a third generation partnership project (3GPP) system using an adaptive multi-rate-wideband (AMR-WB) codec.

137. (New) The device as defined in claim 135, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with a communication mode of a second communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the communication mode of the second communication scheme.

138. (New) The device as defined in claim 75, wherein the first communication mode is a full-rate communication mode and the second communication mode is a half-rate communication mode.

139. (New) The device as defined in claim 75, wherein the particular communication mode comprises a signaling half rate communication mode or an interoperable half rate communication mode.

140. (New) The device as defined in claim 75, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with a communication mode of a second communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the communication mode of the second communication scheme.

141. (New) The device as defined in claim 75, wherein the first communication mode and the second communication mode are for a first communication scheme, wherein the device is configured to receive first communications via a first system and to transmit second communications via a second system, wherein the first system uses the first communication scheme and the second system uses a second communication scheme, wherein the first system is a code division multiple access 2000 (CDMA2000) system using a variable bitrate wideband (VBR-WB) codec and the second communication system is a third generation partnership project (3GPP) system using an adaptive multi-rate-wideband (AMR-WB) codec, wherein the first communication mode of the first communication scheme is interoperable with a communication mode of a second communication scheme and the second communication mode of the first communication scheme is not interoperable with the communication mode of the second communication scheme.